

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ANNOUNCEMENT NUMBER: 11-005

OPEN TO: All Interested Candidates

POSITION: *Media Assistant, FSN-8*

OPENING DATE: May 16, 2011

CLOSING DATE: June 3, 2011

WORK HOURS: *Full-time; 40 hours per week*

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

SALARY: **Ordinarily Resident (OR):
11,849 LVL p.a. (Starting salary; FSN-8)
Not-Ordinarily Resident (NOR): (Position Grade: FP-5 step 1)

ALL ORDINARILY RESIDENT (OR) APPLICANTS MUST HAVE THE REQUIRED WORK AND/OR RESIDENCY PERMITS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR CONSIDERATION.

The U.S. Embassy in RIGA is seeking an individual for the Media Assistant position in the Public Affairs Office.

BASIC FUNCTION OF POSITION

The Media Assistant is responsible for monitoring, reporting and analyzing Latvian and Russian-language media in order to provide media briefings to the Ambassador, Deputy Chief of Mission, and Public Affairs Officer and other US Government officials. Media summaries, briefings, reviews and analysis are done interchangeably with the Information Specialist (FSN-9) on a weekly schedule.

The Media Assistant provides English–Latvian-Russian–English translation and interpretation for key Embassy personnel.

Under the guidance of the Information Specialist (FSN-9) the position is also responsible for media outreach.

A copy of the complete position description listing all duties and responsibilities is available in the Human Resources Office. Contact Lauma Uzija, HR Manager, ext. 6267.

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED

All applicants must address each selection criterion detailed below with specific and comprehensive information supporting each item.

1. **Education:** University degree (BA) in journalism or English or political science. Certificate of professional interpreter/translator required.
2. **Prior Work Experience:** 1-2 years media-related work and interpretation/translation experience.
3. **Language requirements:** Level V (fluent with ability to translate/interpret) Latvian, level V (fluent with ability to translate/interpret) English, and level IV (fluent with ability to translate/interpret) Russian (including in writing) is required.
4. **Job knowledge:** Knowledge of Latvian and U.S. foreign and domestic policy issues and key Latvian political and cultural institutions, including knowledge of relevant legislation, current events in politics, economics, defense and security issues. Knowledge of the Latvian language and Russian language media, how best to approach them, as well as key media players. Incumbent should also have significant knowledge of recent American, European, and Russian history.
5. **Other skills:** Ability to work independently, skillfully, and smoothly under extreme pressure and tight deadlines and in high profile situations. Ability to exercise initiative, creativity, and sound judgment. Ability to analyze a broad array of media.

SELECTION PROCESS

When fully qualified, US Citizen Eligible Family Members (USEFMs) and US Veterans are given preference. Therefore, it is essential that the candidate specifically address the required qualifications above in the application.

ADDITIONAL SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Management will consider nepotism/conflict of interest, budget, and residency status in determining successful candidacy.
2. Current employees serving a probationary period are not eligible to apply.
3. Current Ordinarily Resident employees with an Overall Summary Rating of Needs Improvement or Unsatisfactory on their most recent Employee Performance Report are not eligible to apply.
4. Currently employed US Citizen EFMs who hold a Family Member Appointment (FMA) are ineligible to apply for advertised positions within the first 90 calendar days of their employment.
5. Currently employed NORs hired under a Personal Services Agreement (PSA) are ineligible to apply for advertised positions within the first 90 calendar days of their employment unless currently hired into a position with a When Actually Employed (WAE) work schedule.

TO APPLY

Interested candidates for this position must submit the following for consideration of the application:

1. Universal Application for Employment as a Locally Employed Staff or Family Member (DS-174); or

2. A combination of both; i.e. Sections 1 -24 of the UAE along with a listing of the applicant's work experience attached as a separate sheet; **or**

3. A current resume or curriculum vitae that provides the same information found on the UAE (see *section 3A below for more information*); **plus**

4. Candidates who claim US Veterans preference must provide a copy of their Form DD-214 with their application. Candidates who claim conditional US Veterans preference must submit documentation confirming eligibility for a conditional preference in hiring with their application.

5. Any other documentation (e.g., essays, certificates, awards) that addresses the qualification requirements of the position as listed above.

3A. If an applicant is submitting a resume or curriculum vitae, s/he must provide the following information equal to what is found on the UAE.

Failure to do so will result in an incomplete application.

- A. Position Title
- B. Position Grade
- C. Vacancy Announcement Number (if known)
- D. Dates Available for Work
- E. First, Middle, & Last Names as well as any other names used
- F. Date and Place of Birth
- G. Current Address, Day, Evening, and Cell phone numbers
- H. U.S. Citizenship Status (Yes or No) & status of permanent U.S. Resident (Yes or No; if yes, provide number)
- I. U.S. Social Security Number and/or Identification Number
- J. Eligibility to work in the country (Yes or No)
- K. Special Accommodations the Mission needs to provide
- L. If applying for position that includes driving a U.S. Government vehicle, Driver's License Class / Type
- M. Days available to work
- N. List any relatives or members of your household that work for the U.S. Government (include their Name, Relationship, & Agency, Position, Location)
- O. U.S. Eligible Family Member and Veterans Hiring Preference
- P. Education
- Q. License, Skills, Training, Membership, & Recognition
- R. Language Skills
- S. Work Experience
- T. References

SEND YOUR APPLICATION TO

UzijaLX@state.gov

or

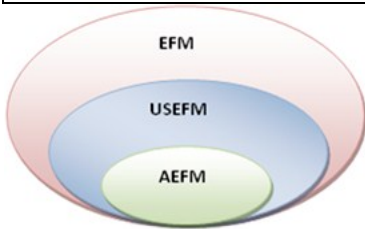
Human Resources Office

Re: *Information Assistant*, US Embassy, Remtes 1, Riga, LV-1510

POINT OF CONTACT

DEFINITIONS

This diagram demonstrates how an Appointment Eligible Family Member (AEFM) is also a US-citizen Eligible Family Member (USEFM) as well as an Eligible Family Member (EFM).



1. **Eligible Family Member (EFM):** An individual related to a US Government employee in one of the following ways:

- Spouse or same-sex domestic partner (as defined in [3 FAM 1610](#));
- Child, who is unmarried and under 21 years of age or, regardless of age, is incapable of self-support. The term shall include, in addition to natural offspring, stepchildren and adopted children and those under legal guardianship of the employee or the spouse when such children are expected to be under such legal guardianship until they reach 21 years of age and when dependent upon and normally residing with the guardian;
- Parent (including stepparents and legally adoptive parents) of the employee or of the spouse, when such parent is at least 51 percent dependent on the employee for support;
- Sister or brother (including stepsisters and stepbrothers, or adoptive sisters or brothers) of the employee, or of the spouse, when such sibling is at least 51 percent dependent on the employee for support, unmarried, and under 21 years of age, or regardless of age, incapable of self-support.

2. **US Citizen Eligible Family Member (USEFM):** For purposes of receiving a preference in hiring for a qualified position, an EFM who meets the following criteria:

- US Citizen; and,
- EFM (see above) at least 18 years old; and,
- Listed on the travel orders of a direct-hire Foreign, Civil, or uniformed service member assigned to or stationed abroad with a USG agency that is under COM authority, or at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan; and either:
 1. Resides at the sponsoring employee's or uniformed service member's post of assignment abroad or at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan; or
 2. Resides at an Involuntary Separate Maintenance Allowance (ISMA) location authorized under 3 FAM 3232.2.

3. **Appointment Eligible Family Member (AEFM):** EFM (see above) eligible for a Family Member Appointment for purposes of Mission employment:

- Is a U.S. citizen; and

• Spouse or same-sex domestic partner (as defined in [3 FAM 1610](#)) or a child of the sponsoring employee who is unmarried and at least 18 years old; and

- Is listed on the travel orders or approved Form [OF-126](#), Foreign Service Residence and Dependency Report, of a sponsoring employee, i.e., a direct-hire Foreign Service, Civil Service, or uniformed service member who is permanently assigned to or stationed abroad at a U.S. mission, or at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT), and who is under chief of mission authority; and
- Is residing at the sponsoring employee's post of assignment abroad or, as appropriate, office of the American Institute in Taiwan.
- Does not receive a Foreign Service or Civil Service annuity

4. **Member of Household (MOH)**: An individual who accompanies a direct-hire Foreign, Civil, or uniformed service member permanently assigned or stationed at a U.S. Foreign Service post or establishment abroad, or at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan. An MOH is:

- Not an EFM; and,
- Not on the travel orders of the sponsoring employee; and,
- Has been officially declared by the sponsoring USG employee to the COM as part of his/her household.

A MOH is under COM authority and may include a parent, unmarried partner, other relative or adult child who falls outside the Department's current legal and statutory definition of family member. A MOH does not have to be a US Citizen.

4. **Not Ordinarily Resident (NOR)** – An individual who:

- Is not a citizen of the host country; and,
- Does not ordinarily reside (*OR*, see below) in the host country; and,
- Is not subject to host country employment and tax laws; and,
- Has a US Social Security Number (SSN).

NOR employees are compensated under a GS or FS salary schedule, not under the LCP.

5. **Ordinarily Resident (OR)** – A Foreign National or US citizen who:

- Is locally resident; and,
- Has legal, permanent resident status within the host country; and,
- Is subject to host country employment and tax laws.

EFMs without US Social Security Numbers are also OR. All OR employees, including US citizens, are compensated in accordance with the Local Compensation Plan (LCP).

CLOSING DATE FOR THIS POSITION: June 3, 2011

The US Mission in Riga provides equal opportunity and fair and equitable treatment in employment to all people without regard to race, color religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation, marital status, or sexual orientation. The Department of State also strives to achieve equal employment opportunity in all personnel operations through continuing diversity enhancement programs.

The EEO complaint procedure is not available to individuals who believe they have been denied equal opportunity based upon marital status or political affiliation. Individuals with such complaints should avail themselves of the appropriate grievance procedures, remedies for prohibited personnel practices, and/or courts for relief.